

**LA WARMLINE PRESENTS AT AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY'S
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

By Michael Tredinnick, Supervising Psychologist, ACCESS Center

The American Association of Suicidology's Annual Conference only comes to Los Angeles once in a blue moon. This year, it is being held at Century Plaza Hyatt Regency between April 9th and April 12th.

On April 10th, Dr. Michael Tredinnick from the ACCESS Center will be presenting with Sandri Kramer, Director of Didi Hirsch's Suicide Crisis Line on *Does Your Hotline Need a Warmline? Open the "Lines of Communication" in Your Community!*

The presentation focuses on how LACDMH's LA Warmline, in with collaboration with three other local warmlines, has had a significant impact on both the ACCESS Center's crisis line as well as Didi Hirsch's Suicide Crisis Line. Both hotlines now transfer their established callers to the local warmlines, thus increasing their agents' availability to respond to those in crisis. Since the introduction of the collaboration, all the local warmlines have doubled their monthly call volumes. The data even suggests the callers feel that they have significantly improved their coping skills as a result of their calls.

Research data, case studies and the experiences of the collaboration will be provided to the national and international audience with the aim of expanding the number and reach of warmlines across the country.

For more information on the conference, go to: www.suicidology.org

The LA Warmline is funded by the voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (Prop. 63). It is one of several Prevention and Early Intervention initiatives implemented by the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), an organization of county governments working to improve mental health outcomes for individuals, families and communities. For more information, visit www.calmhsa.org.